THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The next meeting of the Steering Committee of the participating countries of Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (India) TAP(I) Gas Pipeline Project would consider, *inter alia*, endorsement of the new Gas Pipeline Framework Agreement between all the participating countries which will formalize India's participation in the project.

Such multilateral projects invovle protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the project.

Development of tourism in Rajasthan

†595. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any budget for development of different tourist areas in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of budget, such places and targets fixed thereof;

(c) whether a proposal regarding developing new tourist places in Rajasthan has been submitted by the State Government of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the districts for which proposals of development of different tourists places in Rajasthan have been received by the Central Government and out of them, the tourist places for which development scheme has been formulated by the Central Government and the target fixed thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) No State-wise budget for development of tourism is fixed by Ministry of Tourism. However, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism related projects, which are identified in consultation and interaction with them.

Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respect are approved on the basis of *inter-se* priority and funds released subject to availability under respective head.

(c) and (d) No proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for development and promotion of tourism complete in all respects is pending with the Ministry of tourism.

Shortage of Five Star Hotels in Delhi

596. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of Five Star Hotels in Delhi in view of the comming Commonwealth Games 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of rooms required for Commonwealth Games; and

(d) what are the steps Government is taking in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Tourism has assessed that there is a shortage of 30,000 hotel rooms in the city of Delhi and NCR of Delhi for Commonwealth Games 2010.

(d) Ministry of Tourism is in constant touch with the various Land Owning Agencies like DDA, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Railways etc. to identify additional hotel sites. These agencies and the State Governments of the NCR have also been advised to follow investor friendly land policies and single window approach for promoting hotel projects and also for allotting sites on revenue sharing basis, granting extra FSI/FAR for hotels, so that budget hotels are promoted. All these efforts are in the direction of filling the gap.

Development of tourist places in Delhi

†597. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received some proposals so far for development of tourist places of the country particularly the capital city of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for tourism projects submitted by State Government/Union Territory Administration that are as per scheme guidelines. During the current financial year, 240 projects have been sanctioned for development and promotion of tourism in the country including 5 projects in Delhi. Details of projects sanctioned for Delhi in 2007-08 and given in the statement.

Statement

Details of projects sanctioned, amount sanctioned and released for Delhi upto December, 2007 in the current Financial Year

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Development of Kanganheri Water Sports Tourism Project	297.87	238.30
2.	Development of Chhawla Water Sports Tourism Project	416.21	332.97
3.	Celebration of Garden Tourism Festival	5.00	4.00
4.	Celebration of Garden Tourism Festival	5.00	4.00
5.	Celebration of Qutub Festival	5.00	4.00

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.